



Boycott Colorado, Inc. • P.O. Box 300158 Denver, Colorado 80203-0158 • 303 777-0560

Katharine Pease/Frank Whitworth
Ground Zero

Dear Katharine & Frank:

Today, the lives and livelihood of millions of lesbians, gay men & bisexuals went on trial in Colorado. Your organization's support of the Colorado boycott over Amendment 2 has been instrumental in educating voters across the country of the national anti-gay & lesbian agenda of right-wing groups in my state. Your support must stay strong because it is working.

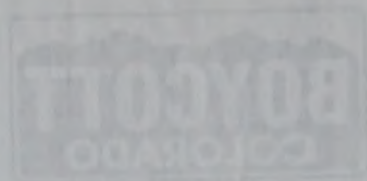
To recap Amendment 2's effects: its' passage caused an immediate rise in violence toward gay men and lesbians of 700%, now down to approx. 160%; at least one documented suicide; 60% increase in teen suicides; many job and apartment losses; divisiveness in our community that has caused a few Denver gay leaders to forget history and publicly oppose their very own boycott movement.

Your group is one of over 220 organizations, companies, cities and celebrities who responded to Colorado's gay & lesbian community's call for a national protest to legalized discrimination. I am asking you today for your continued support of this boycott movement that is helping our community create change in Colorado and across the nation.

It is likely that Denver's District Court will, once again, rule in our favor. Amendment 2 would then likely be appealed to the US Supreme Court, where it could be tied up for years. During that time, the best way to prevent it's spread and energize progressive voters in Colorado to repeal the law is the Colorado boycott. This boycott has been one of the largest and most effective in history, and must not be stopped before change is made. In Colorado, home to over 65 anti-gay groups who are prepared to attack again, change means proactively securing civil rights protections for gays, lesbians & bisexuals.

When the national boycott was called by my organization on November 19, we had specific goals: to publicize Amendment 2's backers and effects to the nation; to encourage repeal of Amendment 2; to promote the need for gay & lesbian civil rights protection in Colorado and nationally. Boycott Colorado organizers rely heavily on the history of successful boycotts promoted by NOW, Nelson Mandela and Cesar Chavez, to name a few.

This boycott is working. All goals are being met, and require further nurturance. One glimmer of hope for a Colorado gay & lesbian civil rights bill has emerged. People For A Stronger Colorado has garnered almost enough petition signatures to place a repeal of Amendment 2 and a simultaneous civil rights bill on the Colorado ballot in November 1994. While I don't believe a majority vote is necessarily the best way to secure civil rights for



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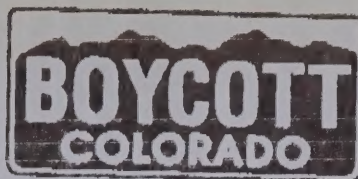
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minorities, the education that has and will come out of this attempt, coupled with the boycott's momentum, is terrific. Colorado would then have the opportunity in 1994 to demonstrate its' "tolerance" of gays that has been recently touted.

Colorado's gay & lesbian community needs the hope and education that will be produced by a repeal effort. Ironically, some prominent gay groups have opposed this effort, fearing another political loss. In our opinion, a loss will not be as devastating to a wounded community as not trying.

Many boycott endorsers such as the American Jewish Congress and The Funding Exchange have promised committed support to the boycott until gays & lesbians have civil rights protection in Colorado. We call on your organization, but especially non-gay civil rights groups who have already secured federal civil rights protections, to make the same commitment, publicly, should a favorable court ruling come down in October/November. Together, we must all support a winning strategy all the way. The Colorado boycott's continued success will encourage progressives to take the next step in this struggle: work for proactive civil rights protection in Colorado and across the country.

Our lives in Colorado are in danger if complacency is encouraged by a court victory, and we are left exposed with no hope or strategy for statewide civil rights protection. The Boycott Colorado movement provides the catalyst for many civil rights campaign strategies.

Please contact our office with your supportive reply before October 23, if possible, or if we can answer any questions you may have. (303)399-5445

In strength,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Terry Schleder". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a horizontal line.

Terry Schleder, Pres.
Boycott Colorado, Inc.
12 October 93

